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Message Text

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61
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66604
DRAFTED BY IO/HDC:EPNOZIGLIA
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---------- 075361
R 291623Z MAY 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 2529

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FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM NIAMEY 28 MAY 74:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 1681

AIDAC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:
SUBJECT: NIGER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION, PITTSBURGH, PENNA

1. EMBASSY VISITED BY TEAM FROM BORTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION HEADED BY DR. ROBERT A. HINGSON. GROUP COMPOSED OF BOTH AMERICANS AND CANDIANS, WAS REPOONDING TO REQUESTS FROM NIGER AMBASSADORS TO CANADA AND U.S. FOR ALL TYPES MEDICAL ASSISTANCE,INCLUDING POLIO AND MEASLES VACCINES. FOUNDATION HAS LOOSE AFFILIATION WITH CITY OF OSHAWA IN CANADA, WHICH HAS RAISED FUNDS FOR RELIEF EFFORTS IN NIGER. WHILE TEAM HERE TO MAKE SURVEY OF MEDICAL NEEDS AND WAY IN WHICH THEY CAN MEET NEEDS, THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM SOME VACCINES (50,000 DOSES POLIO AND 30,000 MEASLES WITH PROMISES OF SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES) AND MED-O-JET EQUIPMENT. IN DISCUSSIONS DURING PAST SEVERAL DAYS WITH MOH OFFICIALS TEAM HAS BEEN SOMEHAT WIDCOURATED BY REPORTS THAT GON/MOH HAS ON HAND OR PROMISED SUFFICIENT VACCINES.
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(APPARENTLY GON WAS AS SURPRISED AS WE WERE WHEN THE GROUP TURNED UP.) GROUP WAS TOLD THAT GON HAS 500,000 DOSES POLIO VACCINE BUT DOES NOT HAVE MANPOWER MAKE REQUIRED DISTRIBUTIONS. BROTHER'S BROTHER TEAM ALSO DISCOURAGED FIND THAT AID PROVIDING MEASLES VACCINE. TEAM DOES NOT WANT VACCINES TO BE WASTED AND WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO MOVE THEM IF NECESSARY.

2. TEAM WAS TOLD THAT 600,000 DOSES MEASLES VACCINE REQUIRED WHICH FIGURE SEEMS GROSSLY EXCESSIVE OUR LAYMEN'S EARS. GON, ACCORDING OUR RECORDS, HAS REQUESTED 210,000 DOSES FOR FY-74 WHICH WAS AMOUNT USED IN FY-73. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF REQUEST FOR VACCINES FOR FY-75 OR WHETHER AID INTENDS PROVIDE SAME.

3. DR. HINGSON STATED HE MET WITH PEOPLE IN AFR/CWR (AS WELL AS CDC AND WHO GENEVA) BUT DID NOT TALK WITH HERMAN MARSHALL OR AID FHA PERSONNEL. REQUEST WE BE GIVEN RUNDOWN TENOR OF CONVERSATIONS IN CWR. REQUEST INDICATION ALSO EXTENT AID PARTICIPATION IN MEASLES VACCINE TO NIGER IN FY-75. THIS SEEMS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY INVOLVE PRIVATE ORGANIZATION THIS EFFORT IF NOT TOO LATE SALVAGE PARTICIPATION THIS GROUP. (AMERICAN CONTINGENT HAS ALREADY RETURNED HOME). WOULD BE SHAME IF AFTER TIME AND EXPENSE OF GROUP (AS WELL AS TIME OF GON, EMBASSY AND ADO) THEY WERE TO RETURN HOME TO TELL THEIR CONTRIBUTORS THEIR HELP NOT NEEDED. OBVIOUSLY, IN THIS CASE, WHERE GROUP'S ASSISTANCE SOLICITED BY NIGERIEN AMBASSADORS, NOT MUCH WE CAN DO PREPARE GON FOR THEIR ARRIVAL BUT BELIEVE PROPER BRIEFING/PREPARATION SUBSEQUENT GROUPS THIS KIND WOULD RESULT LESS HARD FEELINGS AND BETTER USE THEIR RESOURCES. HECK UNQUOTE RUSH

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